

ABSTRACT

Comfort devices for use with a mammography unit and for patient comfort comprising an x-ray transparent compressible material and a partially radiopaque identifier. The identifier can comprise indicia which imparts information about the comfort device onto a mammogram. The material can substantially conform to patient contact surfaces of a cassette holder and, in one example, openings can be included for passing a mammography unit cassette through for insertion into the cassette holder. The indicia can provide properties of the compressible material which can affect image quality. An identifier can impart information onto a mammogram in an area away from the breast image and can serve to alert a viewer that image quality may have been compromised by cushioning material. Comfort devices can also be used with a mammography unit compression paddle. The indicia appear in a second area of the mammogram and serve to alert the viewer that the compression paddle was cushioned. Cassette holders and compression paddles can be adapted with x-ray transparent covers comprising partially radiopaque identifiers in conjunction with comfort devices that indicate that such a device was used during mammography.